CLAIMS LISTING:

Claims 1-33 are cancelled.

34. (Currently amended) An extension device configured to form an elongated, articulated, horizontally rotatable interconnection between a forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and a rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section, said device comprising:

an ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame having a horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ about which said forward and rear vehicle sections can rotate relative to each other and extending between a front end connector that matingly engages with the forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and a back end connector that matingly engages with the rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section and wherein at least one of said connectors is a pivot connector that enables a rotatable connection about said horizontal longitudinal axis, the extension device being adapted maintain the forward and the rear vehicle sections in longitudinally spaced apart relationship to each other while permitting the forward and the rear vehicle sections to pivot relative to each other about the horizontal longitudinal axis. ~~of rotation of said frame and the other of said connectors is a fixed connector that establishes a fixed connection relative to the horizontal longitudinal axis of rotation of said frame.~~

35. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 34, wherein at least one of said front end and said back end connectors is a sleeve configured to receive an insert member of a respectively connected one of the forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and the rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section.

36. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 35, wherein said sleeve is cylindrically shaped.

37. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 36, wherein said pivot connector comprises said cylindrically shaped sleeve.

38. (Currently amended) The device as recited in claim 36, ~~wherein said~~ further comprising a fixed connector ~~comprises~~ comprised by said cylindrically shaped sleeve.

39. (Previously presented) The device as recited in claim 38, wherein said fixed connector further comprises a fastener radially offset from said cylindrically shaped sleeve, said fastener being configured for fixed interconnection with one of the forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and the rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section.

40. (Currently amended) The device as recited in claim 34, wherein said ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame further comprises at least one stiffening girder arranged parallel to the horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ of the frame.

41. (Currently amended) The device as recited in claim 40, wherein said at least one stiffening girder comprises a pair of stiffening girders, each arranged parallel to the horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ of the frame.

42. (Currently amended) The device as recited in claim 34, wherein said ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame further comprises a cardan shaft passageway therethrough [[and]] which is arranged parallel to the horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ of the frame.

43. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 42, wherein said cardan shaft passageway further comprises a brake arrangement comprising one of a brake disk and a caliper assembly for braking an installed cardan shaft.

44. (Currently amended) The device as recited in claim 34, wherein said ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame further comprises a plurality of rigid side walls forming a surrounding housing having an access aperture therethrough.

45. (Currently amended) An articulated vehicle comprising:

a forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section articulatedly interconnected with a rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section in longitudinally spaced apart relationship to each other; and

an extension device forming an elongated, articulated, horizontally rotatable interconnection between said forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and said rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section; [[and]]

said extension device comprising an ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame having a horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ about which said forward and rear vehicle sections can rotate relative to each other and extending between a front end connector matingly engaged with the forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and a back end connector matingly engaged with the rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section and wherein at least one of said connectors is a pivot connector establishing a rotatable connection about said horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ of said frame, the extension device serving to maintain the forward and the rear vehicle sections in longitudinally spaced apart relationship to each other while permitting the forward and the rear vehicle sections to pivot relative to each other about the horizontal longitudinal axis. ~~and the other of said connectors is a fixed connector establishing a fixed connection relative to the horizontal longitudinal axis of rotation of said frame.~~

46. (Previously Presented) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 45, wherein at least one of said front end and said back end connectors is a sleeve insertibly receiving an insert member of a respectively connected one of the forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and the rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section.

47. (Previously Presented) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 46, wherein said sleeve is cylindrically shaped.

48. (Previously Presented) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 47, wherein said pivot connector comprises said cylindrically shaped sleeve.

49. (Currently amended) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 47, ~~wherein said~~ further comprising a fixed connector ~~comprises~~ comprised by said cylindrically shaped sleeve.

50. (Previously Presented) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 49, wherein said fixed connector further comprises a fastener radially offset from said cylindrically shaped sleeve, said fastener being fixedly interconnected with one of the forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and the rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section.

51. (Currently amended) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 45, wherein said ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame further comprises at least one stiffening girder arranged parallel to the horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ of the frame.

52. (Currently amended) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 51, wherein said at least one stiffening girder comprises a pair of stiffening girders, each arranged parallel to the horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ of the frame.

53. (Currently amended) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 45, wherein said ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame further comprises a cardan shaft passageway therethrough [[and]] which is arranged parallel to the horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ of the frame.

54. (Previously Presented) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 53, wherein said cardan shaft passageway further comprises a brake arrangement comprising one of a brake disk and a caliper assembly for braking an installed cardan shaft.

55. (Currently amended) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 45, wherein said ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame further comprises a plurality of rigid side walls forming a surrounding housing having an access aperture therethrough.

56. (Currently ameded) An articulated dumper comprising:

a forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section articulatedly interconnected with a rear, wheeled, dumper section in longitudinally spaced apart relationship to each other; and

an extension device forming an elongated, articulated, horizontally rotatable interconnection between said forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and said rear, wheeled, dumper section; [[and]]

said extension device comprising an ~~elongate~~ elongated rigid frame having a horizontal longitudinal axis ~~of rotation~~ about which said forward and rear vehicle sections can rotate relative to each other and extending between a front end connector matingly engaged with the forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and a back end connector matingly engaged with the rear, load-carrying wheeled vehicle section and wherein at least one of said connectors is a pivot connector establishing a rotatable connection about said horizontal longitudinal axis, the extension device serving to maintain the forward and the rear vehicle sections in longitudinally spaced apart relationship to each other while permitting the forward and the rear vehicle sections to pivot relative to each other about the horizontal longitudinal axis. ~~of rotation~~ of said frame ~~and the other of said connectors is a fixed connector establishing a fixed connection relative to the horizontal longitudinal axis of rotation of said frame.~~

57. (Previously Presented) The articulated vehicle as recited in claim 56, wherein at least one of said front end and said back end connectors is a sleeve insertibly receiving an insert member of a respectively connected one of the forward, prime mover wheeled vehicle section and the rear, wheeled, dumper section.